NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

PRESENTS

SHAKESPEARE

IN AMERICAN COMMUNITIES

In partnership with

The SallieMae Fund

Welcome to the world of William Shakespeare.

The National Endowment of the Arts is proud to present *Shakespeare in American Communities,* the largest tour of Shakespeare in our nation's history.

Over 15 months, six distinguished theater companies will bring new productions of Shakespeare to more than 100 small and mid-sized cities in all 50 states. The program will also reach thousands of schools through exciting educational materials, classroom workshops, and in-school performances.

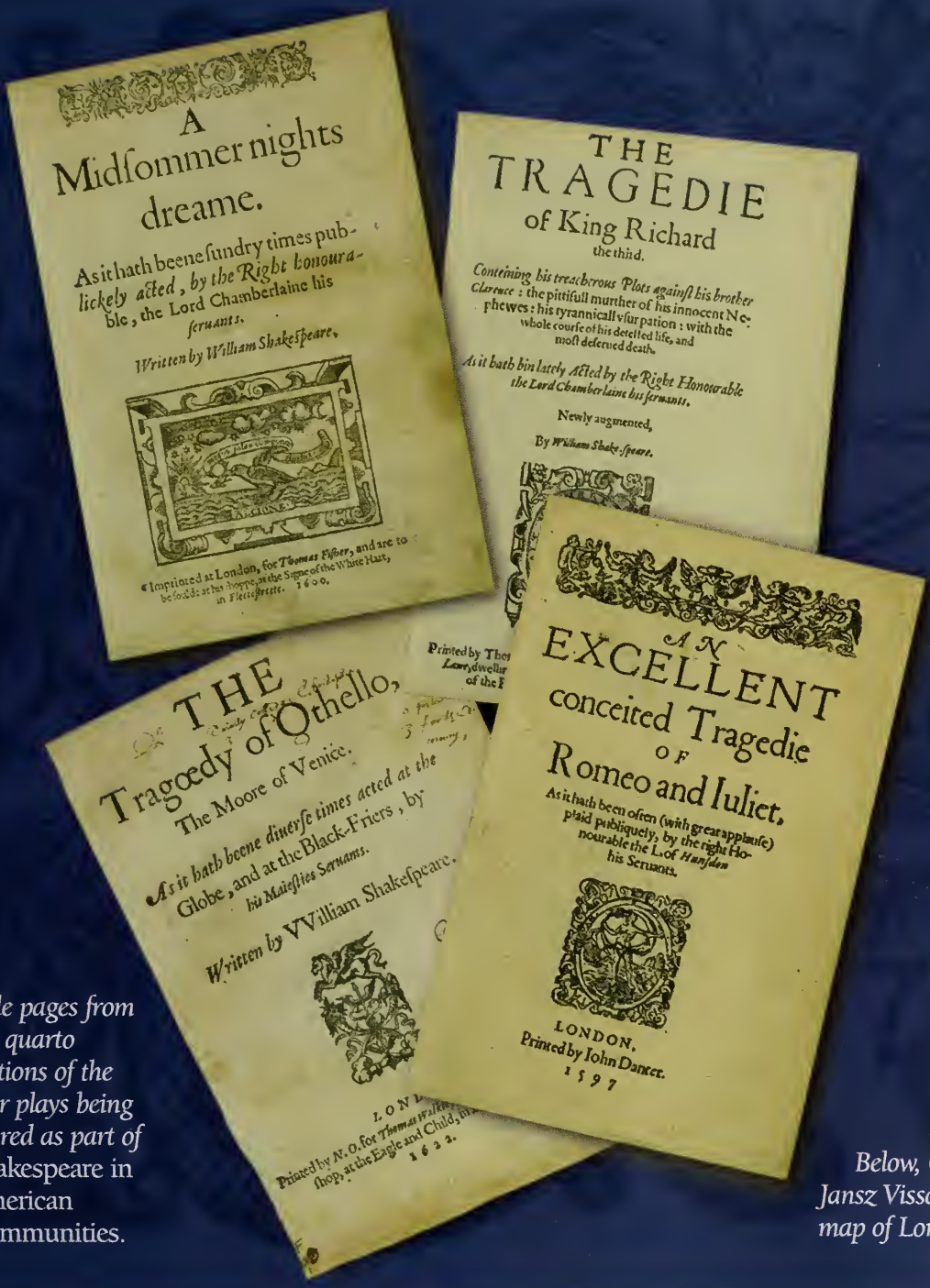
The National Endowment for the Arts has created this program in cooperation with Arts Midwest to help revive the American tradition of theatrical touring and to bring the finest art to the broadest possible public.

I would like to thank the honorary co-chairs of *Shakespeare in American Communities,* Mrs. Laura Bush and Jack Valenti, Motion Picture Association of America President and CEO. Their enthusiastic support has greatly enriched the program.

This special commemorative program provides a timeline on the life and times of William Shakespeare. We hope this information will enhance your enjoyment of the performance.

Dana Gioia

Dana Gioia
Chairman, National Endowment for the Arts


A
Midſommer nights
dreame.

As it hath beene ſundry times pub-
lickely acted, by the Right Honoura-
ble, the Lord Chamberlaine his
ſeruants.

Written by William Shakeſpeare.

Imprinted at London, for Thomas Fisher, and are to
be ſolde at his ſhoppe, at the Signe of the White Hart,
in Fleetſtreete. 1600.

THE
TRAGEDIE
of King Richard
the third.

Conteining his treacherous Plots againſt his brother
Clarence: the pittifull murther of his innocent Ne-
phewes: his tyrannicall vſurpation; with the
whole courſe of his detested life, and
moſt deſerued death.

As it hath bin lately Acted by the Right Honorable
the Lord Chamberlaine his ſeruants.

Newly augmented,

By William Shake-ſpeare.

THE
Tragœdy of Othello,
The Moore of Venice.

As it hath beene diuerſe times acted at the
Globe, and at the Black-Friers, by
his Maieſties Seruants.

Written by VVilliam Shakeſpeare.

Printed by Thes
Lowe, dwellin
of the F

LON
Printed by N. O. for Thomas Walk
ſhops, at the Eagle and Child, in
1622.

AN
EXCELLENT
conceited Tragedie
OF
Romeo and Iuliet,

As it hath been often (with great applauſe)
plaid publiquely, by the right Ho-
nourable the L. of Hunſdon
his Seruants.

LONDON,
Printed by Iohn Danter.
1597

Title pages from the quarto editions of the four plays being toured as part of Shakespeare in American Communities.

Below, Claes Jansz Visscher's map of London, 1625

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Life and Times of WIL

1555 1556 1557 1558 1559 1560 1561 1562 1563 1564 1565 1566 1567 1568 1569 1570 1571 1572 1573 1574 1575 1576 1577 1578 1579 1580 1581 1582 1583 1584 1585 1586 1587 1588 1589 1590

Queen Elizabeth I of England begins her reign.

★
William Shakespeare born to John and Mary Shakespeare in Stratford-upon-Avon.

An 1834 exterior view of Shakespeare's birthplace.

Playwright Christopher "Kit" Marlowe born.

Arthur Golding translates Ovid's *Metamporphosis*. The text later influenced Shakespeare's work.

Richard Burbage, who portrayed many of Shakespeare's characters, born.

Playwright Ben Jonson born.

The first permanent theater in England, the Theatre, is built.

Carlton International Media Limited

Laurence Olivier in Henry V

Shakespeare marries Anne Hathaway.

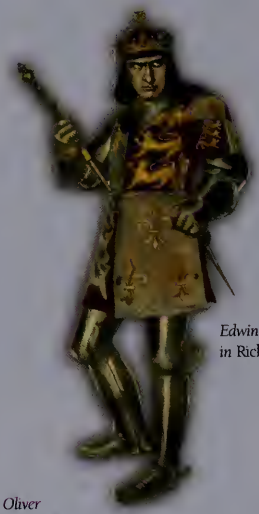
Shakespeare's twins Judith and Hamnet born.

Shakespeare goes to London to pursue life as an actor and playwright.

Shakespeare's daughter Susanna born.

Edwin Booth's, costume from Richard III

Marlowe's play *Dr. Faustus* first produced.



Edwin Booth in Richard III

Edna May Oliver in Romeo and Juliet

LLIAM SHAKESPEARE

John Barrymore in Hamlet

Bettmann/CORBIS

1590 1591 1592 1593 1594 1595 1596 1597 1598 1599 1600 1601 1602 1603 1604 1605 1606 1607 1608 1609 1610 1611 1612 1613 1614 1615 1616 1617 1618 1619 1620 1621 1622 1623 1624 162

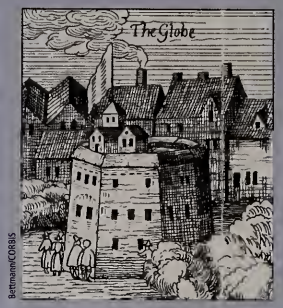
Hamnet Shakespeare dies at age 11.

Shakespeare's father dies.

Shakespeare begins writing the *Sonnets*.

The Theatre permanently closes due to the expiration of its lease.

Lord Chamberlain's Men lease land and build the Globe Theatre from the remains of the Theatre. The Globe opens.



Bettmann/CORBIS

Shakespeare becomes founding member of the Lord Chamberlain's Men.

Queen Elizabeth dies. James VI of Scotland ascends to the throne, becoming King James I of England and Scotland.

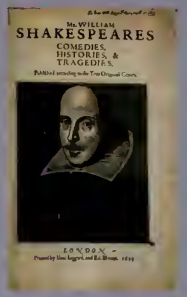
Shakespeare's *Sonnets* published without his permission.

Shakespeare retires from the theatre, moves permanently to Stratford.

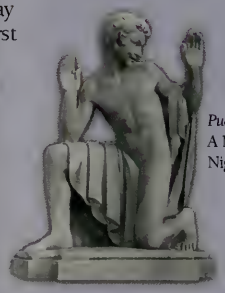
★
On April 23, Shakespeare dies at age 52, and is buried at Holy Trinity Church, Stratford, two days later.

Shakespeare's wife, Anne Hathaway, dies.

First Folio of Shakespeare's work is published.



play first


Puck from A Midsummer Night's Dream

Shakespeare is listed as a principal actor in the program for Ben Jonson's *Every Man in His Humour,* confirming his reputation as an actor.

Paul Robeson in Othello

Claire Newman-Wlliams

Lucy Newman-Wlliams in Macbeth

Ben Jonson's *Workes* published. He is first living playwright to publish his complete works.

Benjamin West's King Lear and Cordelia

First performances of the *Henry VI* series, *Richard III,* and *A Comedy of Errors.*

First performances of *A Midsummer Night's Dream, Romeo and Juliet, and Richard II.*

First performances of *Julius Caesar, Henry IV Part I and II, Henry V, Much Ado About Nothing,* and *The Merchant of Venice.*

First performances of *Twelfth Night* and *Hamlet.*

First performances of *Othello, King Lear, Macbeth,* and *Antony and Cleopatra.*

First performances of *The Tempest* and *Henry VIII.*

1590 1591 1592 1593 1594 1595 1596 1597 1598 1599 1600 1601 1602 1603 1604 1605 1606 1607 1608 1609 1610 1611 1612 1613 1614 1615 1616 1617 1618 1619 1620 1621 1622 1623 1624 162

A MESSAGE FROM OUR PARTNER, THE SALLIE MAE FUND

As a charitable organization committed to creating educational opportunities for underserved students, The Sallie Mae Fund is proud to support the National Endowment for the Arts' *Shakespeare in American Communities* tour.

The Fund applauds this impressive endeavor to share the works of one of the world's most celebrated artists with communities throughout the United States. We are particularly pleased that our contribution to the *Shakespeare in American Communities* tour will support The Sallie Mae Fund's Free Seats for Students initiative. In each community, 50 seats will be made available for free to underserved high school students and their parents or chaperones.

The Sallie Mae Fund strongly believes that every student deserves the opportunity to reach their potential and fulfill their educational dreams. Today's students will be tomorrow's teachers, police officers, astronauts, doctors, and, of course, playwrights. That's why the Fund is working hard to make access to a post-secondary education a reality for America's children.

The Sallie Mae Fund extends its best wishes to the National Endowment for the Arts and Arts Midwest for a successful tour. We hope you enjoy the performance.

NATIONAL ENDOWMENT FOR THE ARTS

The SallieMae Fund

Arts MIDWEST

www.shakespeareinamericancommunities.org

FOLGER

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